

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

In response to the Examiner's first Office Action of November 29, 2005 the Applicant respectfully submits the accompanying Amendment to the specification, drawings and claims, and the below Remarks.

Regarding Amendment

In the Amendment:

Page 1 of the specification has been amended to replace docket numbers with application numbers accordingly.

Page 13, line 21, page 15, line 1, page 17, line 28, page 18, line 17 and page 22, line 19 of the present specification are amended to omit reference to Fig. 17C;

Fig. 43 is amended to include the reference sign "500", as is described at page 8, lines 25-33 of the present specification;

independent claim 1 is amended to clarify that the recited support frame is elongate and that the recited connector arrangement is arranged in a housing, where the housing is configured to allow connection of the power and data terminals and fluid delivery port to the respective power supply, data input and fluid delivery tubes. Support for this amendment can be found at page 21, line 3-page 23, line 7 of the present specification;

dependent claim 4 is cancelled and dependent claims 5 and 6 amended to dependent from claim 3;

dependent claim 10 is amended to clarify that at least two fluid distribution members are provided, each for one of the printhead integrated circuits. Support for this amendment can be found at page 6, line 34-page 7, line 13 and page 8, lines 13-34 of the present specification; and

dependent claims 2, 3 and 7-9 are unchanged.

It is respectfully submitted that the above amendments do not add new matter to the present application.

Regarding Drawing Objections

Regarding Fig. 17C

It is respectfully submitted that the above-described amendments to omit reference to Fig. 17C in the present specification, provides the correction required by the Examiner.

Regarding reference sign "500"

It is respectfully submitted that the above-described amendment to Fig. 43 to insert the reference sign "500", provides the correction required by the Examiner.

Regarding Claim Objections

Regarding Claim 4

It is respectfully submitted that the above-described cancellation of claim 4 and amended to the dependency of claims 5 and 6, provides the correction required by the Examiner.

Regarding "respective ones" and "the fluid distribution members"

It is respectfully submitted that the above-described amendment to claim 10 (it is noted that the Examiner refers to claim 5 in the Office Action, however pending claim 10 recites the claim language indicated not pending claim 5) to clarify that at least two fluid distribution members are provided, each for one of the printhead integrated circuits, clarifies that the claimed fluid distribution members refer to the disclosed fluid distribution stacks 500 (see page 6, line 34-page 7, line 13 and page 8, lines 13-34 of the present specification), and therefore provides the correction and antecedent basis required by the Examiner.

Regarding 35 USC 102(b) Rejections

It is respectfully submitted that the subject matter of amended independent claim 1, and claims 2, 3 and 5-10 dependent therefrom, is not disclosed by Silverbrook et al. (US 6,439,908), for at least the following reasons.

In the present invention, each printhead module 30 has two or more printhead tiles/integrated circuits 50,51 arranged on an elongate fluid channel member 40. At least two of these printhead modules are longitudinally assembled within a casing 20 to form a printhead. Multiple printhead modules, each having multiple printhead tiles, are used in the printhead assembly so that replacement of the modules and selection of printhead length are easily provided without the need to provide individual controllers and connections for each printhead integrated circuit.

In order to easily allow connection of power, data and ink to the printhead integrated circuits, fluid channel member and drive electronics 90 of the module assembly, a single end housing 120 is mounted to at least one of the casing ends, which houses each of power supply, data and fluid delivery connection portions 116-118 (see page 6, line 34-page 7, line 14 and page 21, line 3-page 23, line 7 of the present specification). Amended independent claim 1 recites these features of the present invention.

On the other hand, Silverbrook discloses an arrangement in which each printhead module 12 has a single microelectromechanical chip 18 and support molding 26,28. Each module is plugged into a reservoir molding 32 housing an ink reservoir 16, which is secured to a chassis 14. Each module may be removed from the reservoir molding, however scalability of the printhead assembly 10 is not provided, as the reservoir molding is a set length. Furthermore, contrary to the Examiner's contention, drive electronics are not provided on the printhead assembly of Silverbrook, rather the PCB 54 of the chassis has a connector 66 which connects to an external controller.

Furthermore, the TAB film 22 of Silverbrook, used as the presently claimed connector arrangement by the Examiner, merely has contact pads 48 for connection to the PCB 54. Whilst the TAB film is bonded to the ribs 70 defining the channels 72, used by the Examiner as the presently claimed fluid delivery port(s), in order to form one of the modules, this arrangement does not constitute a housing as is claimed in amended independent claim 1 mounted to a longitudinal end of the chassis/reservoir molding (see col. 2, lines 6-53, col. 4, lines 6-44 and col. 6, lines 15-22 of Silverbrook).

Thus, the subject matter of amended independent claim 1, and claims 2-10 dependent therefrom, is not disclosed, or suggested, by Silverbrook.

It is respectfully submitted that all of the Examiner's objections and rejections have been traversed. Accordingly, it is submitted that the present application is in condition for allowance and reconsideration of the present application is respectfully requested.

Very respectfully,

Applicants:



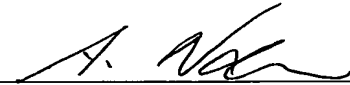
KIA SILVERBROOK



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Amendments to the Drawings

A corrected Fig. 43 is enclosed.

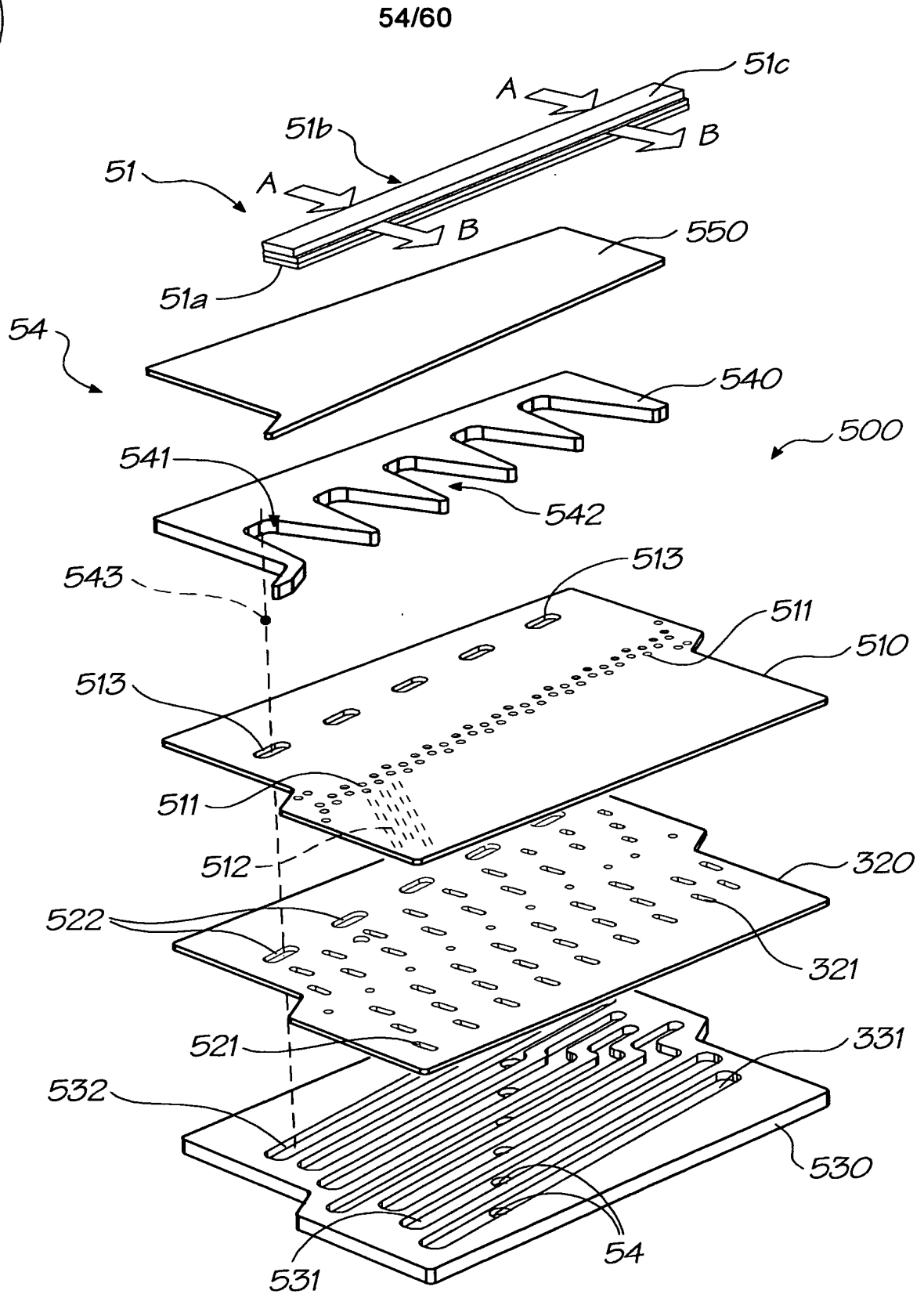


FIG. 43